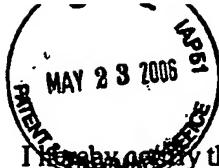


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Doran R. Pace, Patent Attorney

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116  
Examining Group 1654  
Patent Application  
Docket No. USF-T194XC1  
Serial No. 10/784,309

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Thomas Sweeney Heard  
Art Unit : 1654  
Applicants : James Turkson, Richard Jove, Said Sebti, Andrew D. Hamilton  
Serial No. : 10/784,309  
Filed : February 20, 2004  
Conf. No. : 2143  
For : Peptidomimetic Inhibitors of STAT Activity and Uses Thereof

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 22, 2006, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

substituent. Applicants respectfully assert that the Gani *et al.* publication does not teach or suggest a compound where R<sup>1</sup> is any of the substituents set forth in amended claims 1 and 15 of the subject application. In view of the amendments to claims 1 and 15, Applicants respectfully assert that dependent claims 9 and 16 are not anticipated by or obvious over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under §§102(b) and 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully assert that the amendments presented herein place generic claims 1 and 15 in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's withdrawal of claims 3-7, 10-14, 18, and 19 as drawn to a non-elected invention be removed and the claims rejoined in the subject application.

It should be understood that the amendments presented herein have been made solely to expedite prosecution of the subject application to completion and should not be construed as an indication of Applicants' agreement with or acquiescence in the Examiner's position.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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DRP/kmm